



Clockwise from top left: Prothonotary warbler, Northern flicker, Mallard, Turkey vulture, Red-bellied woodpecker, Cedar waxwing. **Background:** Belted kingfisher.

Image credits: Mallard photo by Alan D. Wilson. All others courtesy of Missouri Department of Conservation.

Birds all around

Birds are the easiest-to-see wildlife in the St. Charles Ecopark. Binoculars and a field guide are helpful, but even without those you can see and hear woodpeckers, phoebes, or warblers in the woods. Ducks and geese ride the current of the Missouri River and bald eagles may soar above it.

Birds are usually attracted to wherever land and water meet. Trees and bushes give cover to songbirds, hawks watch from tall cottonwoods, and woodpeckers use nesting cavities in dead standing trees. The woods, wetlands and river shoreline of the Ecopark stock their food: insects, seeds, berries, frogs, and fish.

